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# McGUIRE BANNER



McGUIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Vol. III

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, DECEMBER 28, 1945

No. 6

## "Hi Jinks" Revue Here Stars Minevitch Gang

"Hi Jinks," a bang-up musical revue starring Borrah Minevitch's Harmonica Rascals, will arrive at McGuire to help usher in a happy New Year for patients and personnel at this hospital.

Borrah Minevitch is that engaging fellow who knows that music and laughter go well together, and has risen to world-wide fame heading his unique band of harmonica players. One moment his audience is swept away on a wave of haunting melody, the next it is laughing unrestrainedly at the antics of the group.

Since 1926, when the Rascals were first organized, they have played all over America and in many foreign lands. Not one of the group can read music, yet they produce amazing melodic effects, in solo work and ensemble. Among their favorite numbers are Gershwin's "American in Paris" and "Rhapsody in Blue." They also feature Liszt's Liebestraum and Negro spirituals.

The Rascals feature at present Sammy Ross, 53-inch midget, and 350-pound William J. McBride.

"Hi Jinks," a USO-Camp Show unit, presents a great variety of talented performers in addition to the Rascals. Al Terry, a magician, has appeared on the stage and in many Hollywood productions. His last screen appearance was in "Yankee Doodle Dandy." The Three Belles are a harmony trio of girls from Chicago. Fern Andre is billed as a clever young dancer with a fresh and original style.

The Kessler Sisters, who present a musical act; Sunny Knight, a dancer, and Ray English, comedian and master of ceremonies, round out the cast of "Hi Jinks."

The troupe will appear on the wards only for their two-day stay here, which begins Monday afternoon, December 31, and ends Tuesday evening, January 1.

## Terminal Pay For EM Seen Near Reality

If Budget Bureau objections, reportedly based on the cost of such legislation, are overcome, there is strong likelihood that law will be enacted granting terminal leave to enlisted men.

Washington sources say the War Department is in favor of terminal leave for EM but the department's report on bills now before Congressional committee is still under study by the Budget Bureau. The House Military Subcommittee has been holding hearings since early last week on a number of bills submitted by various members of Congress, where sentiment reportedly is strongly in favor of leave for enlisted men.

Most of the bills under the subcommittee's scrutiny advocate granting 2½ days' leave for each month served, with that part of the leave not taken during service being given as terminal leave. The Budget Bureau opposes such an act, it is said, since the cost is estimated at around \$2,000,000,000.

A report prepared by Bernard Baruch, at the request of the late President Roosevelt, has given impetus to the terminal leave bills by showing that the United States lagged behind other nations in cash payments upon discharge to rank and file members of armed forces. Demands for equitable benefits for enlisted personnel also were provoked by recently approved legislation to allow officers to enter federal service while still drawing terminal leave.

## MGH 'Open House' Marks Year on Air

"Open House at McGuire," the popular air feature which originates here will celebrate the completion of one year of broadcasting with the show to be presented this Saturday afternoon.

During the 52 weeks it has been on the air, the show has twice been the recipient of letters of commendation from the War Department which cited the program for making an outstanding contribution towards creating goodwill between the army and the civilian population in the area covered by the broadcast.

Up to V-J day the program featured the combat experiences of patients being treated at McGuire. With the end of the war, the pattern changed to include stories of the human interest type and interviews with patients.

Since the beginning of the series, with the exception of the first five shows, the McGuire band has provided both background and dance music on the program.

T-Sgt. Barry Sherman has acted as narrator on each of the programs and all dramatic scripts were written by Capt. Howard B. Leeds, public relations officer.

"Open House" is produced for WRVA and may be heard each Saturday from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. over that station.

## M-Day Comes, Goes; All Gay But Wacs

M-Day came last Friday for the male members of the detachment here. M-hour was at 1300. As the sweep-second hand indicated that the time had come, a large convoy of trucks, well, maybe three, tore down the company area and were soon loaded down with foot lockers, wall lockers and the other personal possessions which burden the average GI.

The move was on.

The men were moving out of the cinder-block barracks erected last year to house the detachment and were on their way back to their original quarters in the convalescent wards of the hospital.

There were few tears shed at leaving the bleak gray barracks that have housed the men for many months. The problems of maintaining adequate warmth and coping with the perpetual dampness had been a constant source of hardship.

While the Wacs remain in their present barracks, it has been indicated that the girls will be moved somewhere within the hospital by mid-January.

## Good Night, Nurse!

This business of rivalry between the armed forces is going too far. Guess what the Navy's bragging about now? It says its wartime nurses are finding husbands faster than the Army's nurses.

## Moral: Stay Single

Racine, Wisc.—James Augustus Cooper, the man who became a bridegroom at the age of 101, just died after six months of marriage to his child-bride Julia Wespate, a mere 62. Specific cause of death was not revealed.



**TWO ANNIVERSARIES** — Col. P. E. Duggins, commanding officer of McGuire, celebrated his birthday Wednesday and will commemorate the second anniversary of the activation of the hospital today. For the complete history of the hospital see story on page 3.

## Live Memorial To War Nurses Gains Impetus

The proposal to establish a nurses national memorial in the form of a national headquarters for medical service women which may be utilized as a social center and temporary residence similar to the Army and Navy Clubs for officers, is winning rapid acclaim throughout the country.

The project which has already received the endorsement of the Surgeon Generals of the Army and Navy is sponsored by a large group of prominent citizens. A fund of two million dollars is needed to purchase a suitable building in Washington, D. C. to house the organization.

A committee to raise funds for the memorial is expected to be named soon at McGuire.

In the certificate of incorporation, the aims of the Nurses National Memorial are defined clearly. The principal object will be to provide a memorial, or memorials, to the nurses, women doctors and women medical technicians who have served or are serving in the armed forces of the United States during World War II; to provide facilities for rehabilitation; to provide for the care and assistance of such women who may be in need, by reason of disability and to foster an interest among women towards nursing as a profession.

Mrs. Norman T. Kirk, wife of the Surgeon General of the Army is co-chairman of the memorial organization.

## Officers to Greet New Year With Hop

The brass will greet the incoming year by holding a New Years Dance that should really raise the roof of the officers club here by midnight of Monday.

A dance unit of the McGuire band, called the Five Mad Mullahs of southside Richmond, will throw their mutes away and blow their choppers through their horns from 9:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

A midnite buffet will be served along with the setups, pretzels and other refreshments,—all for free. The party will be strictly informal.

## Floor Show to Feature Holiday Enlisted Dance

The New Year will be ushered in with all the traditional gaiety—and then some—when the magic hour of midnight strikes out the old year for members of the enlisted detachments here.

A formal dance with a 45-minute floor-show featuring Borrah Minevitch's Harmonica Rascals and other topnotch performers will take place in the post gym beginning at 8:30 p.m. Monday.

## Lord Halifax's Son To Visit Amputees

Mr. Richard Wood, youngest son of Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, and an above the knees bi-lateral amputee, will pay a three day visit to McGuire beginning Jan. 2.

With the British 8th Army in North Africa in 1943, Wood suffered the loss of his legs in an accident that might have cost him his life. A Nazi dive bomber, spotting a British motorized convoy along a road opened up with everything it had. A bomb landed literally in Wood's lap and failed to explode. The bomb, a dud, crushed his legs so badly that immediate amputation became necessary.

Fitted with prostheses, Wood, since being trained to walk has visited many amputation centers in the United States to discuss problems and experiences with others similarly hospitalized.

Wood will arrive on the morning of Jan. 2 by private car which he will drive from Washington, D. C. He will leave McGuire on Jan. 4 after a thorough tour of the wards here.

Peter Wood, another son of Lord Halifax and older brother of Richard was killed in action during the war.

A unit of the McGuire dance band billing themselves as the Southside Society Five, will have Spike Jones latching on to his laurels.

Favors, noisemakers, paper hats and streamers will be well in evidence as the hours grow shorter before the waning year.

The Wacs will again turn out in their loveliest formals wearing them probably for their last New Years in the service. Enlisted men will be happy to learn that the Class A uniform which already has borne up nobly in other occasions will be equally appropriate for this dance.

Appearing at McGuire with the USO-show, "Hi-Jinks," the Harmonica Rascals and the other performers in the troupe have consented graciously to lending their talents toward contributing to the success of the evening. The floor show is scheduled to run for 45 minutes and will start at 9:30 p.m.

Additional tables will be set up to accommodate all the guests. Each member of the detachment may invite any number of guests.

Refreshments, beer, cokes, ginger ale and all the necessary ingredients will be on hand to make the evening a real New Years celebration.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**—Through the wonders performed in Hollywood this picture of Jane Wyman made in a hot studio probably last July is intended to depict the gay revelry typical of the New Year. It is our guess that the picture was made with more than the usual movieland optimism—at two minutes past midnight, standing in front of a bar with not a drink in sight! Well, anyhow, a Happy New Year from the BANNER.



# McGUIRE BANNER

Published every Friday for the personnel of McGuire General Hospital by the Public Relations Office. Approved periodical number: APN-3-19-M.

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## Writer's Cramp

Every year at this time most of us get the familiar feeling of being able to get a fresh start with the same ease with which we tear off the last page from the calendar.

The numerous errors and transgressions we committed during the past year fade from our memories as we, like gamblers, call for a fresh deck of cards. In the shuffle we expect to deal ourselves a royal flush, first crack off the bat.

We resolve firmly at the beginning of each year not to repeat our mistakes of the past. And we pledge ourselves with iron-bound conviction to hold fast to our promises. Whatever our hopes for ourselves may be at the outset of a new year, they seem based always on our weaknesses and our awareness of them.

For about a week, or maybe a month, thereafter we adhere to all these new year commitments until we slip. Nobody ever really sees us slip—we do that quietly and with dignity. None of this low comedy pratt-fall stuff for us. But, slip we do, and for the remainder of the year merrily we go to hell until again the last page is torn from the calendar.

This year, things are going to be different. (They always are.) But we promise that they will. (We did last year, too.) We expect to be out of the army soon with our field of activity less limited. (Well, maybe.) Just wait and see. (Okay, we will.)

This is a new year—1946. This may be the year of the world's maturity. This is the era of the new beginning. This is the year 1-A.A.—Atomic Age.

This can be the year in which we take our old broken-down resolutions and breathe new meaning into them.

Among the things we're not going to forget this year are the pinched faces and bloated bellies of the victims of starvation in such countries as Greece, Poland, Italy and parts of France. And while the plight of our own "third-of-a-nation" is not quite as desperate as those who live in war-torn territories, let us remember that here in this country despite the fact that the Sunday papers may advertise mink coats for dogs, there is a sizable segment of our populace that is considerably undernourished.

We want a world that does more for its children than to apportion relief by the same methods made infamous by organizations such as Tammany Hall. It was, and is, the charming custom of that political body to give to poor people existing in the city slums baskets of food each Thanksgiving and Christmas.

When the local ward heeler was ready to bestow his largesse upon the poverty stricken slum residents he never did so without first tilting his derby in the proper direction and adjusting the cigar in his mouth to an angle suitable for photographic purposes.

For two days following each of these holidays, the poor but still potential voters had food enough to make even more intolerable the gnawing hunger that existed the other 360 days of the year.

By the same token, we cannot ease the pain that is borne in the guts of the hungry throughout the world by UNRRA or other relief agencies without ridding the world also of those conditions which inflict this hunger upon the people.

It is not our argument here to advocate that the United States play the role of the paternal god-father to the world. Lack of food is caused not alone by failure of crops, or lack of ambition, or indolence or vice. There is ample food in the world to feed all. Food has been burned or left to rot in the holds of ships or on docks because the market prices were not "right." Food has been withheld from the mouths of children because their fathers were out of work and could not pay the grocer.

We're not asking this country to underwrite the salvation of the world. For one thing, it is not our sole responsibility. We do say and demand that this country take the lead in an organization that exists already—the UNO—and frame for us the kind of world that was promised us in the early days of what was known then as the "People's War"; the kind of world that men of goodwill like Willkie and Roosevelt and Wallace were able to visualize and which in this brief space of time seems to have been forgotten by their successors.

Let us not be forced, twenty years from now, to ask ourselves bitterly the answer to the question, "What the hell were we fighting for?" We went through all that once before.

This New Years, let's resolve never to go through it again.

And a Happy New Year to you.

—D.F.



MOVIE MORMON—Jane Harker is described by a Warner Brothers press agent as being the great-granddaughter of Brigham Young, late president of the Church of Latter Day Saints. Identifying a person as the lineal descendant of Young may be easy but confusing when recalling the number of wives the founder of the Mormon Church was reputed to have. And whose little girl are you?



## POST THEATRE

Week of Friday, December 28. Show for patients at 6:15 p.m.; for duty personnel at 8:15 p.m., daily. Matinee every Sunday at 2 p.m.

**FRIDAY—"People Are Funny,"** with Jack Haley, Rudy Vallee and Helen Walker.

**SATURDAY—"Vac a tion From Marriage,"** with Robert Donat and Deborah Kerr.

**SUNDAY & MONDAY—"A Walk in the Sun,"** with Dana Andrews and Richard Conte.

**TUESDAY—Double Feature:** "Along the Navajo Trail," with Roy Rogers; "The Woman Who Came Back," with Nancy Kelly and John Loder.

**WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY—"They Were Expendable,"** with Robert Montgomery and John Wayne.

**FRIDAY—"One Way to Love,"** with Chester Morris and Marguerite Chapman.

## 'Damn,' Nasty Word Senator Discovers

Washington—High-flown oratory is OK in the Senate, but profanity is out, Senator Tom Connally (D., Texas) discovered. Supporting a bill providing for American participation in the United Nations Organization, he said:

"I don't like these people who say it won't work; it isn't worth a damn."

Senator Wherry (R., Neb.) protested that it was "beneath the dignity of the Senate to use 'that word' here."

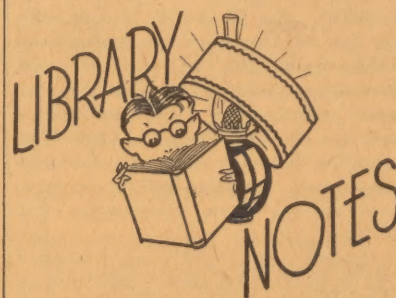
Connally withdrew the word.

## Some GIs in Germany Don't Want Wives There

Germany—An inquiring reporter of "The Warrior," organ of the 1st Armored Division, asked 10 EM in the outfit how they felt about Gen. Eisenhower's suggestion that the Army might bring the wives of soldiers in the occupation army to Germany. They were unanimously opposed. Most of the men felt that conditions are too bad. One didn't want his missus to associate with the Krauts, who, he said, "aren't any good and never will be." An MP declared flatly: "No, I don't like my wife."

## Going to Richmond?

Hayward, Cal.—There's always room for one more in Harold Sexton's taxi. The other night Harold was arrested while carting 18 people in his cab.



By Suzanne McLaurin Connell

Now that it is almost time to "ring out the old, ring in the new," it is fitting for us to take time out to think about New Year's Resolutions. Let your library have a prominent place on your list and don't fail to make many resolutions about books.

The following is just a suggestion for "A New Year's Resolution List". Resolve to read a great many books during 1946.

Be generous and return books promptly, so that other eager readers may get them. Remember how long you had to wait for "Forever Amber", so finish your books as quickly as possible and return them to the Library for the use of other people.

Broaden your reading interests and branch out into new fields. If you've been reading for recreation only, try studying hard for a change; if you're worked the old brain too hard lately, give yourself a rest and relax with a light book.

Never forget that your library's purpose is to give you the books you want when you want them. If it sometimes fails to reach this goal, be patient and give it another chance to please you.

Now is the time for looking back over 1945 and for planning ahead to 1946. Most of you spent a great deal of time with your favorite book friends during 1945; in 1946 plan to spend even more time in the delightful companionship of books and you'll be sure to have a "Happy New Year" all during the year!

## Chapel Schedule

### PROTESTANT

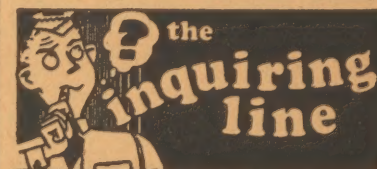
Midweek Service Wednesday evenings .....6:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 12, Building 303.  
Daily Services, Monday through Saturday inclusive, 8:00 a.m. in Red Cross lounge.  
Sunday Service.....9:30 a.m. and, at 10:30 a.m. in Conference Room, Bldg. 303.

### CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass .....8:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Daily Mass:  
Mon., Thurs., Sat. ....5:00 p.m.  
Tues. and Fri. ....6:00 a.m.  
Confessions Sat.....6:30-8:00 p.m.

### JEWISH

Friday Services.....7:00 p.m.



By Major R. A. Murphy

Q. What preference do veterans receive for Civil Service appointments?

A. The Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 states the following are eligible:

1. Honorably separated WAC and enlisted men or officers having service connected disabilities.
2. Wives of above, when husband is unable to apply.
3. Unmarried widows of deceased veterans who either had war service or have campaign medals.

Preference:  
1. Persons who fall in 1, 2 or 3 above will receive a 10 point preference and will be placed ahead of civilians on list even though the latter's examination grade is higher. The preference holders however must have the basic mark of 60.

2. Persons in 4 above, will receive a five point preference but will get no priority.

Q. Is there a wavier of payment of premium clause in my National Service Life Insurance after discharge and after conversion if I am totally disabled continuously for a period of six months or longer?

A. Yes. According to AR 600-110, Paragraphs 15 and 20, payment may be waived in cases of continuous total disability for periods of six months and over regardless of type of National Service Life Insurance held or whether on active duty or a veteran.

Q. If a soldier is discharged early in the month and doesn't have enough money to pay his share towards family allowance, will his wife and child receive any amount at all for that month?

A. Yes. AR 35-5540, Paragraph 34 states when an enlisted man is discharged, other than to accept a commission or appointment in the military service of the United States, and the amount due him on his final statement is insufficient to cover completely the Class F deduction (family allowance), as much of the amount as possible will be collected on the final statement, and no other action taken.



## Bars and Stripes

To First Sergeant:  
T-Sgt. Peter J. Anania  
To Technical Sergeant:  
S-Sgt. Barry Sherman  
S-Sgt. Melvin D. Sanders  
To Staff Sergeant:  
Sgt. Martha M. Cline  
To Private First Class:  
Pvt. Knouf Sivley

## Going Down!

San Francisco—With suicides from the Golden Gate Bridge totaling 4 in one week, a local wag has posted this sign on an approach to the span: "Is this trip necessary?"



# McGuire Celebrates Second Anniversary of Activation Today

McGuire General Hospital will celebrate the second anniversary of its activation today. Today, one of the largest amputee centers in the United States, it presents an imposing contrast to the site of the hospital before construction begun. What was once peaceful farmland and countryside is now a self-sustaining community which administers to the needs of military and civilian personnel.

The BANNER presents a brief history of the highlights in the short life of McGuire.

11 June 1943—Letter, War Department, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington CE 632 (Richmond General Hospital) SPEKM, dated 11 June 1943, subject: Construction of Army General Hospital, Richmond, Virginia, area.

14 August 1943—Construction of hospital begun this date on 162-acre plot of land 1,200 feet from the southern boundary of the city limits of Richmond in Chesterfield County, Virginia, at the junction of Broad Rock Road and Belt Boulevard.

24 August 1943—General Orders No. 48, paragraph 1, dated 24 August 1943, War Department, Washington, DC, designated the name of McGuire in honor of Medical Director Hunter Holmes McGuire, of the Second Army Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, the Confederate Army.

27 December 1943—McGuire General Hospital (1385th Service Unit) was activated by authority of General Orders No. 135, ASF, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, and Colonel P. E. Duggins, Medical Corps, assumed command.

Establishment of Special Services Branch.

4 January 1944—Establishment of Civilian Personnel Branch.

8 January 1944—Establishment of Fiscal Division.

22 February 1944—With arrival of the Chief of Surgical Service, organization of sections and subsections planned for this service. A training program for civilians and enlisted personnel instituted.

6 March 1944—Arrival of Chief, Medical Service, and organization and establishment of this service.

Personal Affairs Branch established under Director, Personnel Division, in accordance with General Orders No. 28, ASF, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, dated 19 February 1944.

21 March 1944—Establishment of a Public Relations Office.

31 March 1944—Activation of Hospital Exchange and plans consummated for opening of temporary exchange to serve needs of detachment awaiting completion of permanent facilities.

1 April 1944—Opening of Officer-Patient Mess as a consolidated mess. Persons fed included detached personnel, officers, nurses and patients on officer status.

7 May 1944—First out-patient treated by Office of the Station Surgeon. Prior to this date officers and enlisted men of the 1385th SU travelled to the Richmond Army Air Base for medical treatment.

15 May 1944—Opening of Dental Clinic.

16 May 1944—X-Ray section of the surgical service dissolved and orders issued creating a roentgenological service.

23 May 1944—First issue of semi-monthly twelve-page mimeographed post newspaper, published by public relations office.

1 June 1944—Opening of Detachment-Patient Mess. This mess to feed all detachment personnel, civilian employees authorized to mess and subsequent patients.

Post laundry completed and operations begun under supervision of the Surgeon General's office.

5 June 1944—McGuire General Hospital designated Debarkation Hospital for the Hampton Roads area by letter, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, SPHSM, dated 5 June 1944, subject: Receipt, Classification and Reporting of Overseas Casualties.

26 June 1944—Second Indorsement to letter, McGuire General Hospital, subject: Hospitalization, file MCGCO 701.5, dated 26 June 1944, designated 200 beds for the hospitalization of duty personnel and overseas patients whose homes are in the immediate vicinity of Richmond.

30 June 1944—Hospital officially



**BEFORE**—This peaceful pastoral scene depicts a farm that was purchased by the War Department in order to build McGuire. All of the land on which the hospital stands today was considered very fine farmland.

Hospital Post Exchange in specially designed quarters.

Consolidated Property Responsible Officer assumed responsibility for all property in wards and clinics, thus relieving professional officers of property responsibility.

29 July 1944—First overseas pa-

Anticipating the arrival of overseas evacuees, the Richmond News Leader raised over \$20,000.00 from individual donations to provide every overseas patient hospitalized here with the privilege of making a free, three-minute phone call to his home.

9 October 1944—Supervision of laundry was transferred from Surgeon General's Office to control of Quartermaster Corps per Section IV, War Department Circular 352, dated 30 August 1944.

16 October 1944—Disbanding of 1311th Service Unit, Casualty Transportation Unit, and personnel assigned to 1385th Service Unit, Train Division, McGuire General Hospital, by authority of General Orders No. 179, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1944, as amended by General Orders No. 180, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland.

23 November 1944—Additional beds for definitive treatment granted, making a total of 772 beds for definitive treatment and reserving 1,000 beds for debarkation patients, per letter, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington 25, DC, SPMDM 632.2, dated 23 November 1944, subject: Additional Beds for Definitive Treatment at McGuire General Hospital. The revised bed authorization included:

Service Command Credit, including detachment ..... 200  
General and Orthopedic Surgery ..... 577  
Debarkation ..... 1,000

With this increase in definitive treatment patients, the Reconditioning Service inaugurated a greatly expanded program.

30 November 1944—Post newspaper, "McGuire Banner," inaugurated policy of a printed four-page weekly issue in place of semi-monthly mimeographed edition.

23 January 1945—McGuire General Hospital's 72 buildings officially turned over to the Medical Department by the Corps of Engineers in a dedication ceremony held in the Red Cross Auditorium. Acting for the Surgeon General was Brigadier General Raymond W. Bliss, MC, Assistant Surgeon General; representing the Corps of Engineers was Colonel Philip E. E. Gesler, CE. Major General Philip Hayes, Commanding General, Third Service Command, made the dedicatory address.

Included in the audience were patients and staff members of the Post, the Governor of Virginia, Commanding Generals and Officers of surrounding posts, camps and stations, members of the McGuire family, and representatives of leading Richmond civic and church organizations.

29 January 1945—TWX, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, authorized conversion of existing EM Detachment Barracks to wards and construction of housing and feeding facilities for EM. Conversion results in increased patient capacity for total of 2,565.

1 February 1945—Authorization

received to establish Artificial Eye Center here, per letter, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 31 January 1945, SPMCO 44.2 (McGuire General Hospital)K.

TWX, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 1 February 1945, authorized establishing of Neurosurgical Center here, with bed allotment of 1,440, to begin operations 22 February 1945.

New over-all bed capacity included:

Service Command Credits .... 125  
Neurology ..... 200  
Neurosurgery ..... 1,440

1385th Service Unit, McGuire General Hospital, redesignated 1385th Service Command Unit, per General Orders 10, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, Section I, dated 29 January 1945.

3 February 1945—Last shipment of evacuees arrived, marking termination of debarkation function of hospital. Shipment brought total number of evacuees processed, since 29 July 1944, to 5,170. Prisoners of War patients constituted 1,230 of this number.

7 February 1945—Last evacuee transferred from hospital, marking cessation of debarkation function of McGuire and adoption of mission of definitive treatment.

22 February 1945—Neurosurgical Section, Surgical Service, begins operations.

24 February 1945—TWX, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, ordered transfer of Casualty Transportation Unit at existing strength from this Post to Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation, Newport News, as a permanent change of station.

1 March 1945—Arrival of first class of Senior Cadet Nurses for training.

7 April 1945—TWX, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 7 April 1945, authorized establishment of Amputation Center here with 440 beds.

New over-all bed capacity includes:

Service Command Credits .... 125  
Neurology ..... 200  
Neurosurgery ..... 1,000  
Amputations ..... 400

1 May 1945—Establishment of Amputation Section, Surgical Service.

15 May 1945—Conversion of basements, VA Buildings Numbers 108, 207 to wards completed and declared ready for occupancy.

31 May 1945—TWX, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 30 May 1945, authorized increased bed capacity, bringing total to 2,450, including:

Service Command Credits .... 125  
Neurology ..... 200  
Amputations ..... 1,125  
Neurosurgery ..... 1,000

27 June 1945—Conversion of basement, VA Building No. 403, to wards completed and declared ready for occupancy. The conversion of basements in VA Buildings Numbers



**AFTER**—A picture of the entrance to the Administration building portrays the change that took place when the former farmlands were converted into the busy organization that McGuire General Hospital is today.

opened and received patients from Service Command.

21 July 1944—The 1311th Service Unit, Casualty Transportation Unit, was activated by authority of Section II, paragraph 1, General Orders 131, Hq, 3d SvC, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1944, with station at McGuire General Hospital.

27 July 1944—Official opening of

tients (105 in shipment) arrive and are readied for evacuation to other army hospitals for definitive treatment.

Witnessing their arrival were members of the Associated Press, United Press, Richmond Newspapers, Baltimore Press, etc. In addition, three broadcasts were held.



**ARRIVAL**—The first contingent of patients from overseas is shown arriving at McGuire on a hospital train. During the period when the war was raging it was a commonplace affair to see these hospital trains arriving at the special siding at all hours of the day and night.

(Continued on Page 4)



# Sports Fans Await Bowl Games New Year's Day

New Year's Day will see a one-day reunion of the nation's football greats when the various bowl games will be played from coast to coast. For the first time in four years the traditional bowl classics will be played under peaceful skies. What's even more important is that many of the boys who helped clear those skies will be playing on the contending teams.

It is expected that some half-million spectators will attend the games, while millions more will have their ears glued to the loud-speakers to catch the games being broadcast over the national networks.

Number one on the bowl list is the Tournament of Roses in Pasadena, California—the oldest of all the intersectional contests. The first Rose Bowl game was played in 1902.

This year Southern California and Alabama will be featured in the grid classic. Southern Cal, making its ninth trip to the bowl, has never been on the losing end. In its five previous trips, Alabama has won three, tied one and lost one.

Alabama went through the past season unbeaten and untied. Mainstay Harry Gilmer, All-American back, is the keystone of the Crimson Tide's passing power. Southern Cal counts on its heavy forward wall to stem the tide. The Bears, for the first time since participating in the tournament, have been tabbed as underdogs.

Football fans are looking forward expectantly to some genuine grid-iron thrills when undefeated Oklahoma A. & M. will face the once-defeated Galloping Gaels of St. Mary's. The game is tabbed as resolving into a personal conflict between two of the year's great players. Bob Fenimore, the Okie, who accounted for twelve touchdowns this past season, will contend with Herman Wedemeyer, said to be the most versatile back produced on the West Coast in many years.

The Orange Bowl, located in Miami, will be hosts to Holy Cross, where the Crusaders will oppose the local Miami Hurricanes. Both teams have lost only one game each during the season just ended. Holy Cross blew the nod to Penn State, and Florida was bent badly by Georgia early in the season.

Texas and Missouri will meet in the Cotton Bowl. And in the two remaining bowl tilts Georgia will meet Tulsa in the Oil Bowl, while New Mexico and Denver scrap in the Sun Bowl. For Tulsa this is the fifth consecutive year it has appeared in the Oil Bowl. Georgia, in hoping to batter Charlie Trippi, who was released from the Army in time to play almost half the season for the Crackers.

With the playing of the various bowl games on New Year's Day, the 1945 football season will be brought to an official close, and the pigskins, moleskins and bruised shins will be buried in the trunks until the whistle blows for spring training.

## Pie-eyed Piper

New York—A kindly 70-year-old candy man has been arrested by Manhattan police for selling illegal whiskey to adults in addition to dispersing bubble gum and cracker jacks to the toddlers.

## More About . . . . . Anniversary

108, 207 (see 15 May 1945), 302 (see 26 May 1945), and 403 provided a total of 328 additional beds,

29 June 1945—37th Women's Army Corps Hospital Company activated at McGuire General Hospital, per letter, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, DC, dated 1 June 1945, file AG 322 (29 May 45) OB-I-SPMOU-M.

30 June 1945—TWX, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 30 June 1945, authorized following new bed capacity:

|                        |           |             |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Authorized patient     | Regu- lar | Emer- gency |
| capacity . . . . .     | 2,585     | 2,885       |
| Service Command        |           |             |
| Credits . . . . .      | 125       | 125         |
| Neurosurgery . . . . . | 1,000     | 1,000       |
| Amputations . . . . .  | 1,260     | 1,435       |
| Neurology . . . . .    | 200       | 325         |

15 July 1945—94th Women's Army Corps Hospital Company activated at McGuire General Hospital, per letter, Adjutant General's Office, dated 27 June 1945, file 322 (23 June 45) OB-I-SPMOU-M.

25 August 1945—Orthopedic Brace and Prosthesis Shop, comprising approximately 8,000 square feet of floor space, completed and declared ready for operations.

30 August 1945—TWX, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, DC, dated 30 August 1945, authorized following capacity revisions:

|                        |           |             |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Authorized patient     | Regu- lar | Emer- gency |
| capacity . . . . .     | 2,559     | 2,859       |
| Service Command        |           |             |
| Credits . . . . .      | 125       | 125         |
| Neurosurgery . . . . . | 1,000     | 1,000       |
| Amputations . . . . .  | 1,234     | 1,409       |
| Neurology . . . . .    | 200       | 325         |

31 August 1945—Survey shows that, to date, 3,198 surgical operations have been performed.

11 November 1945—Dedication of Open-Air Theatre, located on lawn in front of post headquarters. This building, presented by a local labor-management group, provides the hospital with a stage for production of outdoor band concerts, vaudeville, motion pictures, etc.

18 November 1945—First tree planted on hospital grounds in Richmond's landscaping project to give McGuire park-like atmosphere. More than \$13,000 raised in campaign.

19 November 1945—Hospital Radio Distribution begins operations on limited scale. Most elaborate radio facility in any army installation, the system is being installed at an approximate cost of \$100,000.

9 December 1945—Arrival of post band, designated 483rd ASF Band.

10 December 1945—ASF Circular No. 440 establishes McGuire General Hospital as paraplegia center.

12 December 1945—Patient Larry Toscano, leg amputee, sets hospital record with 100-yard dash in 13 seconds.

27 December 1945—Second anniversary of activation of hospital.



**SHOULDER BLADE SQUEEZE**—Even from this position one should be able to recognize Esther Williams who is still flat on her back for readers of the BANNER. For a girl who crashed the movies through her ability as a swimmer, Esther seems to be making a diversionary career of posing for this series of reconditioning exercises. We had hoped to have her out of bed by Christmas, and here it is New Years.

## GIs Find Pay More In Army Than Out

When the average GI leaves the Army to take a job in private industry, his pay will be cut more than 28 percent, a Congressman estimated this week.

Democratic Representative Hook of Michigan told the House of Representatives that the average GI—an enlisted man with wife and two children, who has been serving overseas—has earned \$2,841 a year or \$47.71 a week while in service.

Last week, Hook reported, the "gross weekly pay of the average worker in manufacturing industries was \$47.12. With the return to the pre-war week, with overtime and premium pay cut out, the average earnings in manufacture will drop to \$33.96."

This would represent a cut of more than 28 percent of the wartime earnings of the veteran," the Congressman estimated, in urging a general wage increase of at least 30 percent.

## ILGWU Extends Benefits to Vets

Miami Beach, Fla.—The powerful Garment Workers Union has asked all its locals to exempt returning veterans from fees for their first six months.

In Miami Beach, union president David Dubinsky reports that some six thousand members of the garment workers will come back from the services—and he says they'll all be reinstated in their jobs. Union locals have been instructed to give the vets any help they can.

Earlier, the union's executive board called for a 20 per cent raise for the 300,000 members, declaring that rising costs of living make the boost necessary.

## Towns Must Help Vets, Bradley Tells Forum

Local communities, not topside Washingtonians, must do the "grass roots work" in guiding vets back into civilian life, Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Veterans' Administration chief, declared at a one-day forum on the problem. The job, he said, is not the responsibility of the Federal government alone, but of federal, state and local authorities.

## Atomic Age Promises to Make Life Easy--Maybe

The American soldier—as well as the man in the street—has been told that some day a scientist may turn a switch that could set off a chain of radio activity capable of destroying the earth.

This fact, the average American is as yet unwilling to believe. The story of the atom and the terrible effect it might have on our destiny is too vast a story for him to comprehend. It doesn't—as yet—affect his personal well being. But some day it will.

Some day—says Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, who was head man at the atomic bomb's research and development laboratories at Los Alamos, N. M.—our cities will be heated and lighted by atomic power, our machinery will be driven by it and our lives will be made fuller by the employment of nuclear force in everyday living.

"It is quite feasible," said Dr. Oppenheimer in a recent interview, "that a city the size of Seattle could be completely heated from an atomic energy source in less than five years.

"Of course," the scientist adds, "it will take much longer than that for the full technological benefits of atomic power to make themselves felt."

Other scientists are less optimistic than Dr. Oppenheimer. Dr. Henry D. Smyth, official historian of the atomic bomb, wrote in his report that in the fall of 1944 the possible uses of nuclear energy in industry were considered by a technical committee. "While there was general agreement that a great industry might eventually arise, comparable, perhaps, to the electronic industry," wrote Dr. Smyth, "there was disagreement as to how rapidly such an industry would grow."

The committee concluded that "there is no immediate prospect of running cars with nuclear power or lighting houses with radioactive lamps, although there is a good probability that nuclear power for special purposes could be developed within ten years."

To get back to Dr. Oppenheimer: "From what we have learned so far," Dr. Oppenheimer told a magazine reporter recently, "it is a mistake to speak of having atomic energy run your car, airplane or motorboat. Atomic energy, as we know it now, is not feasible for such purposes or for private home use. It can be employed only on a larger scale—for tremendous indus-



DR. J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER

trial installations or for the needs of an entire community. We face limitations at present which we must recognize. Still there are things we already know we can do. To these we can turn at once. The production of heat or power for whole communities is one of them.

"The truth is," Dr. Oppenheimer continued, "that we cannot consider atomic energy merely in its industrial or military sense. Its possible uses are infinite. With our restricted imaginations we cannot even guess at them. The same could be said, I think, for every new principle for producing power that man ever discovered.

"Our hope for the future is to see this new form of energy as the peril, the challenge and the hope that it really is. It can bring about a major change in human life. Here, if we are wise, is a force we can apply to forge the peoples of the earth into closer unity, for in it they will see a new common danger, a new common interest, a new common wealth. I hope we will have the wisdom and the courage to use this new power."

## Male Call



by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

